IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): YAMAMOTO et al.

Atty. Dkt.: 02-109

Serial No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit:

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Examiner:

Title: ARMATURE HAVING TEETH

Commissioner for Patents Arlington, VA 22202

Date: February 5, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 is/are being submitted for consideration by the Examiner without any admission that it/they constitute(s) statutory prior art, or without any admission that it/they contain(s) subject matter that anticipates the invention or renders the invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached PTO Form-1449 and to return a copy of same to the undersigned attorney as proof that the listed reference(s) has/have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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* PATENT APPLICATION

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| FORM PTO-1449 | ATTY. DKT NO. | 02-109 | SER. NO. | |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|----------|--|
| | APPLICANT | YAMAMOTO et al. | | |
| | FILING DATE | February 5, 2004 | GROUP | |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE NAME | | CLASS | SUB CLASS | |
|---------------------|---|--------------|---------------|-------|--------------|--|
| | 6,157,102 (Discussed in page 1 of the spec.) | Dec. 5, 2000 | Suzuki et al. | | | |
| | 2002/0121831 A1 | Sep. 5, 2002 | Egawa et al. | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

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|---------------------|-----------------|------|---------|------|-------|--------------|-------------|-----|
| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | NAME | CLASS | SUB CLASS | YES | NO |
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* Full English text of the JP Document will be available in machine-translated form from JP (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |
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Rev. 10/94 (Form 3.05)